

### ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

An environmentally safe insecticide and its method of use are disclosed. The inventive insecticide comprises an effective concentration of an alkyl ester of lactic acid. Ethyl lactate is a preferred alkyl ester of lactic acid. Reduction in insect infestation is achieved by applying the insecticide of the invention to an infested substrate. Typical substrates include plants, crops, trees, animals, and humans, and surfaces that come into contact with plants, crops, trees, animals, and humans.